



# YHA LTD

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION 2019

YHA Ltd (trading as YHA Australia) is a not-for-profit company governed by a Board of Directors. YHA Ltd's Constitution provides for an election for positions on the Board each year. A Call for Nominations was sent to eligible members in November 2018. There are three nominees who have been approved by the Board to stand for election, and two vacancies. The three nominations (with their 125-word statements) are below, listed in the order that they will appear on the ballot paper.

### MICHAEL MCPHAIL\*



Now 79 years strong, YHA is no stranger to transformation. In the year I've served as a Director, this theme has been stronger than ever. Backpacking itself is evolving, as Asia continues to rise, and our economy digitises at a rapid pace.

We are not unique in this regard; it's something I've seen firsthand across the 40 countries I've backpacked. The opportunity for YHA and our mission is exciting.

As a management consultant, I see companies navigate these challenges every day.

Re-focusing YHA to be more member-centric, and containing costs to enable reinvestment in our network and hostel improvement, is critical.

As an AICD graduate, and deputy mayor of a WA local government, I offer strong governance experience, marketing skills, and a youthful perspective.

### MATTHEW MCNEIL\*



As an enthusiastic budget world traveller, and incumbent Director of YHA for six years, I wish to be re-elected, as I believe I have the skills, experience and ideas to further assist the development and future of YHA, especially as we look to consolidate a diverse, skills-based Board.

I am a Registered Architect; Australian Institute of Company Directors Graduate; University tutor, and as Senior Associate of a large Sydney architectural firm, have specialised in student housing, hospitality, adaptive reuse and project management. This is particularly relevant in providing planning experience on the Board. Although Sydney-born, I have also lived and worked overseas.

I am specifically interested in YHA's strategies for providing a great product, to encourage travel, social interaction, and the experience of other cultures.

### BRIGITA BEZJAK



I am a life member of YHA because of many wonderful travel experiences, including staying at YHAs. As a Director, I would be excited to be part of initiatives where YHA will lead the market for budget accommodation, so that more young people can access its streamlined affordable membership. I believe this is important for YHA's purpose.

I am a health professional with high-level communication skills, diverse governance skills, and extensive experience on youth-related boards. I offer skills from a creative and risk/integrity lens, which I would use to progress the YHA Strategic Plan and the YHA Sustainability Action Plan (which is a particular interest for me). I hold an Applied Science Degree (Speech Pathology) and Diploma of Business (Governance), and live in regional NSW.

\* = Current Director

For more information on the Board of Directors see [www.yha.com.au](http://www.yha.com.au)